# COURSE DETAIL

| THE LIFE AQUATIC: MACHINES AND THE MAKING OF THE OCEAN |
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| **Country**<br>Singapore |
| **Host Institution**<br>National University of Singapore |
| **Program(s)**<br>National University of Singapore |
| **UCEAP Course Level**<br>Lower Division |
| **UCEAP Subject Area(s)**<br>Environmental Studies |
| **UCEAP Course Number**<br>68 |
| **UCEAP Course Suffix** |
| **UCEAP Official Title**<br>THE LIFE AQUATIC: MACHINES AND THE MAKING OF THE OCEAN |
| **UCEAP Transcript Title**<br>LIFE ACQUATIC |
| **UCEAP Quarter Units**<br>6.00 |
| **UCEAP Semester Units**<br>4.00 |

**Course Description**

Oceans cover most of the globe. Yet once we venture even a few meters from the shore, our understanding of the marine environment is necessarily mediated by technology, from the rudimentary underwater goggles used by divers for centuries to the latest remotely operated underwater vehicles (ROVs) that are transforming our understanding of ocean ecologies. The ocean thus provides a perfect opportunity to explore the relationship among technology, society, and science. Science is often defined as a process of posing, testing, and producing increasingly refined hypotheses with data generated by experiments and measured with instruments. Yet if we look more closely, it becomes clear that rather than playing a subordinate role, instruments and technologies operate to confer scientific authority, to allow knowledge to “travel,” to mediate between science and popular culture, and even to define the method and content of science. This course examines how different “machines,” or technologies have produced understandings of the ocean across history, and places these technologies in their social, cultural, economic, and political contexts. It relates these technologies to key problems in the study of science, like authority, networks, translation, and representation. The result is to complicate our understanding of what science is, and to reveal the complex and evolving interconnections that link technology, and society and our understanding of the oceans.

**Language(s) of Instruction**
English

**Host Institution Course Number**
GEH1068,GEC1025

**Host Institution Course Title**
THE LIFE AQUATIC: MACHINES AND THE MAKING OF THE OCEAN

**Host Institution Course Details**

**Host Institution Campus**

**Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**
Southeast Asian Studies

**Course Last Reviewed**

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